

# THE CIMARRON NEWS AND PRESS

Published every Thursday at Cimarron, New Mexico  
By the CIMARRON PUBLISHING COMPANY

SUBSCRIPTION TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR  
DISPLAY ADVERTISING 15 CENTS PER INCH

## EDITORIAL

The passing years have not lessened the tender feelings of respect and reverence for the memory of McKinley, in Canton. The receiving vault in which his body lies is still guarded by a company of United States soldiers and fresh flowers are placed on the casket every day.

Of the 12 members of the territorial council three are of Mexican descent; of the 24 members of the house, nine are what are called Mexicans. Thus, of the 36 members of the legislature but 12, or one-third, are native New Mexicans of Spanish-American ancestry.

Councilman Stockton of Colfax county has been named on a number of the most important committees of the council. Mr. Stockton will serve during this term on the following committees: Railroads, territorial affairs, municipal and private corporations, irrigation, of which he is chairman, roads and highways, internal improvements, militia, railroad employees, labor and commerce.

After a suspension of more than eighteen months the publication of the Raton weekly Gazette will be resumed on February 1. The paper will, as it always has, represent a faction of the Democratic party of Colfax county. The Gazette will appear under the editorial guidance of Mr. E. H. Hehmer, who has been connected with the Santa Fe, Raton & Eastern offices for some time, until he purchased the Gazette plant of Mr. P. C. Crews. The Democratic party of Colfax county has long felt the need of able newspaper representation, and it is hoped that the coming publication will satisfy the demand.

### THERE ARE TWO SIDES.

There is a lesson for every merchant in the experience told by a representative of a Chicago mail order house to the gathering of newspaper men up in Iowa. He said that the mail order business depended largely upon advertising. He made one remark that merchants should heed. He says they take the local papers and directed their efforts to communities where the merchants were not up-to-date advertisers. If the mail order man finds that any line of business in any town or city is not well advertised, as for instance, furniture, he says that they flood that territory with their literature and always with satisfactory results. He believed it is true, he said, that country merchants could greatly cripple the mail order houses if they would advertise freely and in the right manner. He said that every advertisement should describe minutely the article to be sold and quote the price. Here is food for thought by merchants who fear the effect of the mail order houses.—An Iowa Ex.

The summer weather that has been ours almost daily since January first was broken Friday by a cold wind and a frost that loaded the trees with white though no snow fell. People had to get out their furs and heavier wraps as very light ones or none at all have been the only requirement for warmth for a long time. In fact our people can be heard complaining yet about a storm in November, and one the last of December, the only really cold weather here this season. In Kansas and many other nearby places this weather that today seems cold to us would seem like Indian summer beside the cold there at present. New Mexico at this point has the most delightful of climates and more people should know of this than seems to know of it.

### A GOOD ACT.

The county commissioners at their meeting this month put the road supervisors in a different position than heretofore. Each commissioner has charge of his own district for the appointment of road supervisors and where he sees fit will appoint supervisors in certain districts where they are needed, and Springer will get a supervisor. Commissioner Taylor will appoint the man for this precinct whom the people suggest. This step by the board is well taken. Under the old system where a supervisor was to manage the whole county, there was much dissatisfaction, and it was impossible for him to do the work as it should be done.

A Wersonick was registered in Trinidad last Friday.

There is now every reason to believe that the present legislature will enact a rigid law prohibiting licensed gambling in New Mexico. Two bills are now in preparation and either one of them, it is believed, will meet the demands of the people for a law which will effectually prohibit gambling.

### THE TYPICAL

#### TRAMP PRINTER.

He came in the office one day last week and asked to see the "boss." He was the real thing. He needed no pure food label. The old marks were all present. The dust laden coat, the cap car-crushed, the trousers showing the shiny marks of rods and beams, shoes bent to unsplendored in the effort to hang on. Even the bullying attitude spoke openly of "breakies" defied and "cons" caressed with curses. The coarse face too belonged. The eyes half bleared were keen with cunning and the loose mouth opened for the old worn story of ability and speed—one could not doubt the speed—No man of thirty could carry more convincing marks of it. The nostrils bore the unmistakable sign long of practice at the bar and the fingers once useful now could only clutch his traveling card as a seceder might wrap the stars and stripes about his worthless body. Given the "quarter for a bite" he drifted on and on.

### "THE BLACK EAGLE OF SAN MIGUEL."

This picturesque and most becoming title has been given the new president of the legislative assembly, Charles A. Spiess of Las Vegas, member of the council from San Miguel county.

President Spiess was the presiding officer at the last territorial republican convention and his mastery handling of the issues then at stake, of men and measures, crystallized the already well formed public opinion of his ability as a leader of men, and when the need of such a leader was presented the choice very naturally fell upon him.

Mr. Spiess has a most enviable reputation as a lawyer, his spirit of honor and fair dealing is known where he is known, and these qualities added to his fine natural ability and his educational fitness make his choice a sequence he could not well escape.

Mr. Spiess has many close personal friends, as well as many political well wishers in Raton and none but unite in cordial congratulation to the Black Eagle of San Miguel.

The Tucumcari News and Times have become one paper and are incorporated under the name of the Tucumcari Printing company. This is a wise change as few new communities can support two papers especially, as in this case, two of the same political belief. The Tucumcari News-Times is a good bright paper and is worthy of support in accordance.

### Once Lived in Colfax.

F. D. Morse, who some years ago published the New Mexican Miner at Elizabethtown, and afterwards the Raton Range, now editor of the Santa Rosa Sun in Guadalupe county and who has been justice of the peace of Santa Rosa for the past two years, was defeated on the 14th for re-election. In November Mr. Morse was elected on the republican ticket a member of the constitutional convention from his county, carrying his own precinct by a safe majority. His paper of last week says in regard to the matter:

"E. D. Morse received 47 majority in this precinct in November as a republican candidate for member of the constitutional convention, running ahead of his ticket, and was beaten by 69 majority in January as republican candidate for justice of the peace, running 96 votes behind his ticket. Queer things do happen in politics—without any perceptible change, either."

Mr. Morse should have the consolation in knowing that this is a democratic year in New Mexico, as can plainly be seen by the elections this month, and will always be when the voters are permitted to cast their ballot without the use of money and intimidation. Try and forget it.—Springer Stockman.

Thomas Demott, fireman on the Swastika route, is ill at his room at Mrs. J. C. Orins.

## Early History of Colfax County, Etc.

Continued from first page

Jesus Abreu, Colonel Ceran St. Vrain and other men whose names are well known in the pioneer history of the Santa Fe trail made his home a rendezvous for years. He was a great lover of horses and not infrequently made enormous wagers on the results of races. He owned some of the most finely bred and fleetest horses in the west, and reposed unlimited confidence in their ability to win. At one time he caused to be inserted in the Kansas City newspapers advertisements calling attention to the virtues of one of his pet racers named "Fly," offering to wager many thousands of dollars that she could win over any other race horses in the United States. At this time Maxwell was president of a bank which he had established in Santa Fe. A wagish Kansas City, banker cut out this advertisement, pasted it on a letterhead of Maxwell's bank, and writing beneath in the words, "Banking in New Mexico," hung it in a conspicuous place in the lobby of the Missouri institution.

The rooms devoted to the culinary department of Maxwell's great house—the kitchen and two dining rooms, one for the men and one for the women—were detached from the main residence. Men who visited him rarely saw women about the house. "Only the quick rustle of a skirt, a hurried view of a rebozo, as its wearer, evanescent as the lightning, flashed for an instant before some window or half-opened door, told of their presence," wrote one of his guests in later years. His table service was for the most part of solid silver. Covers were daily laid for more than a dozen persons, and vacant chairs were seldom to be seen. In addition to his invited guests, many forced themselves upon him as the result of his widely advertised hospitality to all comers; others came to him through necessity, as the result of the location of his home on the main line of travel into the territory, at the point where the ascent of the mountain range to the west began. Coach loads of passengers were frequently found bound at the ford in the Cimarron at this point and compelled to remain at his home until the subsiding waters permitted a continuance of the journey.

Maxwell invariably kept a large amount of money—from twenty-five to fifty thousand dollars, usually in gold and silver coin—in an old bureau standing in the main room of his house. The drawers were never locked, and no precautions for its protection were ever taken. This money was the proceeds of the sales of his sheep, cattle and grain, principally to the army, at figures which would stagger a purchaser today. For years he made no effort to keep track of the number of his sheep nor of the amount of his wool clip.

When his American lord was not at home entertaining his friends, he was visiting others. He loved to travel in state. He owned almost every conceivable style of vehicle, but on his longer journeys as when going to Taos, Santa Fe or Las Vegas, he usually traveled in a great thorough-bred Concord coach drawn by six or eight horses. Men who are living today and who accompanied him on some of these journeys say he made it a rule to take small arroyos and irrigating ditches at a gallop, regardless of the consequences to his equipage, his guests or himself.

One instance will serve to illustrate Maxwell's nerve. On July 4, 1867, he caused to be hauled from its place under the cottonwood trees that fringed his home an ancient howitzer which had lain there since the day the valiant General Don Manuel Armijo learned of the approach of Kearney's army. With the assistance of a captain in the regular army stationed at the barracks nearby, he loaded this gun two thirds of the way to the muzzle and prepared for a grand salute in honor of the nation's birthday. A premature discharge followed, blowing away the captain's arm, destroying his eye and shattering Maxwell's thumb. A soldier was at once ordered to Fort Union, at a distance of nearly sixty miles, which he covered in four hours, his horse, the fleetest in Maxwell's stables, dropping dead as the rider alighted at the fort. The surgeon arrived at Cimarron in time to save the captain's life, and dressed Maxwell's thumb. A few days later, the latter, accompanied by Kit Carson, traveled to the fort to ask the surgeon to amputate the thumb, which was causing Maxwell great suffering. Declining anesthetics in any form, he maintained an apparently stolid indifference to the great pain resulting from the operations then, just after the lighthearts had been tied, as Carson placed a glass of whiskey to his lips, he fainted.

A few weeks after this disastrous celebration gold was discovered near the head of Cimarron canon, near the site of the present town of Elizabeth-

town. The announcement was naturally followed by a great influx of fortune hunters and adventurers from all parts of the country, and by scientific prospecting by representatives of capital. The discovery of the precious metal in easily worked placer-fields marked the beginning of the end of Maxwell's baronial reign. Feeling secure in his possession of the grant, a region of vaster extent than some of the kingdoms of Europe, and anticipating untold wealth from the development of the mining properties at the base of Mount Baldy, he spent a fortune in the construction of a ditch forty miles long, extending from the source of the Red river to the new placer diggings. But this undertaking was a stupendous failure, the water entering the ditch at its head being lost by evaporation and seepage before it reached the proposed field of operations. Realizing the fact that his title to this "addition" to his grant could find no status in the law, however, valid the original grant might be, Maxwell endeavored to keep the news of the discovery of gold from obtaining too wide a circulation. But he might as well have attempted to stay a whirlwind litigation to determine titles to the squatters' claims followed, and in order to save what he might from his now decaying fortune, he sold his title to the grant to an English syndicate for a million and a quarter dollars, through the agency of Wilson Wadingham, David H. Moffat and J. B. Chaffee. These men retained six hundred thousand dollars for their services turning the remainder over to the former proprietor.

The deposed "monarch of all he surveyed," whose right there had been none to dispute until 1867, was in a state of perplexity as to what he should do with all this money. But he soon found plenty of advisers, and at the behest of men in whom he had confidence, he invested something like a quarter of a million in the bonds of the first corporation formed for the construction of the Texas Pacific railroad, which proved a complete loss. In 1870 other advisers suggested to him that it would be profitable to establish a bank at Santa Fe, inasmuch as there were none in either New Mexico or Arizona. The idea appealed to him and he applied for charter with a capital of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, furnishing all the money himself and generously dividing ten shares among a sufficient number of his friends to constitute the directory required by the federal banking law. Thus was the First National bank of Santa Fe founded in December, 1870. The original stock certificates of this bank were unique, in one respect, bearing a vignette of Maxwell with a cigar in his mouth. So great was his confidence in his friends that he signed in blank more than a hundred of these stock certificates, in order that their anticipated sale might not interfere with his pursuit of pleasure in other haunts.

Lucien Maxwell was a man of unbounded generosity, and possessed unlimited confidence in those in whom he trusted at all. His charities must have amounted to a considerable fortune. John Burroughs has aptly described certain frontier characters as "wild civilized men." The term fits Maxwell. He was one of the best representatives of the undeveloped frontier, before the days of the "bad man," a type which passed with the extinction of the frontier in its original purity. He was eccentric, improvident in the extreme, liberal to a degree that was widely remarked even in those days of extreme liberality and good-fellowship, a man who was a constant marvel among his fellows. Those who knew him best—Carson, St. Vrain, Beaubien, Scheuch, Pley and a multitude of American traders and native Mexicans—found in him an object of undying affection. The solitude of the mountains and the remoteness from scenes of civilization infatuated him. His love for the wild was unconquerable. Though rough in manner, and quick to resent the slightest interference with what he regarded as his sovereign rights, there was nothing of the desperado about him. Nor was there in his make-up the slightest tinge of bravado.

Maxwell's wife was Luz Beaubien, a daughter of one of the original proprietors of his grant. Three of their nine children are living. The last years of his life were spent at Fort Sumner, where he died in comparative poverty July 25, 1875. Strange as it may seem, there is in existence no monument to the memory of this most striking figure of the mountain frontier period; nor to the memory of his chief friend and companion, Christopher Carson—two of the really big landmarks of the romantic period in the history of New Mexico.

From the Raton Range, Mrs. E. H. Eckert left on Thursday for Cripple Creek and Denver on business and pleasure. She will be gone for two weeks.

## Have the Plans, Specifications

And SUPERINTENDENCE of your RESIDENCE, BUSINESS BLOCKS, BUILDINGS of all kinds and BRIDGES, and your MAPS, PLATS, BLUE PRINTING and DRAFTING done by.....

Herbert P. Green,

Architect....

Office and Residence Phones  
All Work Promptly Executed

Raton, New Mexico

## Schroeder's Drug Store

Raton, New Mexico

For anything you need in Drugs, Medicines or Toilet Articles, etc. Our Stock is complete and our Prices are right

Special attention given to Optical Work, and Satisfaction Always Given. Spanish Spoken

Dr. Geo. C. Roberts

Manager

## Remsberg Mercantile Company

Wholesale Grocers

We are prepared to ship immediately straight or mixed cars of anything in Groceries, Flour, Hay, Grain, Salt, Potatoes, Salt Meats, Lard.

Prompt and Special Attention  
Always Given to our Orders

Raton, New Mexico

## C. T. EDWARDS

RESTAURANT  
AND BAKERY

Opposite Lambert Hotel  
First Class Meals, 35c

BOARD BY THE WEEK \$5.00

## J. S. WILSON

General Blacksmithing,  
Wagon and Carriage Repairing  
Neatly Executed  
New Rigs Built to Order.  
Horseshoeing. Plow Work

CIMARRON

NEW MEXICO

## THE BIG STORE

Always the Leaders in  
GOOD GOODS and  
LOW PRICES



Pre-Inventory Reduction  
Sale Now On

## Cohn Brothers...

MERCANTILE COMPANY

ST. LOUIS, ROCKY MOUNTAIN & PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY  
Passenger Schedule

Daily		Wells Fargo Express	
Train No. 1	STATION	Train No. 2	STATION
3.10 p.m.	LEAVES RATION	12.30 p.m.	ARRIVES RATION
4.40 p.m.	LEAVES RATION	12.01 p.m.	ARRIVES RATION
1.25 p.m.	ARRIVES RATION	11.40 a.m.	ARRIVES RATION
4.25 p.m.	LEAVES RATION	11.30 a.m.	ARRIVES RATION
5.00 p.m.	LEAVES RATION	11.19 a.m.	ARRIVES RATION
5.20 p.m.	ARRIVES RATION	11.09 a.m.	ARRIVES RATION
5.45 p.m.	LEAVES RATION	10.55 a.m.	ARRIVES RATION
6.25 p.m.	ARRIVES RATION	10.45 a.m.	ARRIVES RATION
6.42 p.m.	LEAVES RATION	10.35 a.m.	ARRIVES RATION